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REMARKS

Claims 1-20 were pending in the application. No claims have been amended or added. Claim 20 has been cancelled. Therefore, claims 1-19 are now pending in the application. Reconsideration of the application is requested for at least the reasons that follow.

Applicant thanks Examiner Brown for the allowance of claims 1 - 19.

Applicant appreciates the Examiner's acknowledgement of the Information Disclosure Statement filed June 24, 2003, and of the claim for foreign priority.

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and in view of the reasons that follow.

Claim 20 is requested to be cancelled.

Applicant believes that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of the application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

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The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicant hereby petitions for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

Date

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By_

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